

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 SY-05 /022 W

-----242004Z 026474 /70

R 241050Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8699

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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ACCRA FOR RCO; KINSHASA FOR CEO-R; LAGOS FOR RSO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM ASEC AFSP

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR NEW CRYSTALS FOR SHORT-RANGE E&E RADIOS

FOLLOWING GOCAE SEIZURE OF PR-36

1. THE NIGHT OF MAY 9 CENTRAL AFRICAN POLICE SEIZED ONE OF THE EMBASSY'S PR-36 SHORT-RANGE RADIOS FROM A MARINE GUARD ON DUTY AT THE SITE OF THE NEW CHANCERY, CLAIMING THAT THE PRESENCE OF WALKIE-TALKIE RADIOS WAS NOT AUTHORIZED IN THE CAE. (THE GUARD WAS NOT TECHNICALLY ON EMBASSY PROPERTY WHEN THE SEIZURE TOOK PLACE.) WE IMMEDIATELY REQUESTED RETURN OF THE RADIO FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE NOTING THAT WE HAD NOTIFIED THE GOCAE IN 1970 THAT WE HAD THE SHORT RANGE E AND E RADIOS, I.E., THE BASE STATION AND THE HN-36'S. (THIS NOTIFICATION WAS IN RESPONSE TO A FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON RADIO TRANSMISSION FACILITIES AT EMBASSIES.) THE POLECE FINALLY SAID THAT THEY HAD NO OBJECTION TO OUR HAVING THE RADIO BACK BUT THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO MAKE THE REQUEST FORMALLY THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. WE HAVE DONE SO BUT HAVE RECEIVED NO RESPONSE, AND MAY BE MONTHS BEFORE WE RECEIVE ONE.

2. WHILE WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR RETURN OF THE SEIZED PR-36,

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WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD GO AHEAD AND CHANGE THE CRYSTALS OF THE OTHER PR-36, THE HN-36'S AND THE BASE STATION ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE WILL NOT GET IT BACK FOR SOME TIME AND THAT THE GOCAE WILL BE LISTENING TO ANY USE OF EXISTING FREQUENCIES. WE WOULD THEN USE THE SHORT-RANGE SYSTEM AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST, SINCE THE GOCAE HAS NOT INDICATED ANY OBJECTION TO CONTINUED USE ALTHOUGH THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY NOW AWARE OF THE SITUATION. IN 1970

WE JUSTIFIED THE RADIOS AS NECESSARY FOR USE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.
WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO THE POLICE AND TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT
WE NEED THE PR-36'S FOR COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE NEW CHANCERY
AND THE SEABEE AND GUARD RESIDENCES ON THE SAME COMPOUND.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, THE MSG ON DUTY CARRIES OUR REMAINING PR-36
WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO USE IT ONLY IF NECESSARY. THE MARINE
AND SEABEE RESIDENCES EACH HAVE A HN-36. WE HAVE, HOWEVER,
DISCONTINUED REGULAR NET-WIDE RADIO CHECKS FOR THE TIME BEING.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST CEO ON NEXT VISIT TO BANGUI BRING
AND INSTALL CRYSTALS FOR EMBASSY'S FM 56, 12 HN-36'S AND 2
PR-36'S.
QUAINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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